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6 January 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Resume of OCB Luncheon Meeting, 6 January 1960

PRESENT: Mr. Allen, Mr. Dulles, Mr. Gray, Mr. Harr, Mr. Irwin,
Mr. Merchant, Mr. Riddleberger, Mr. Scribner,
Mr. Smith

1. Marshall Plan Student Program

Mr. Gray said that there is a need for people with considerable stature in international affairs to serve as trustees for this operation. The name of David Bruce was suggested and met with favorable comment from the Board.

2. Speech by President Ayub

Mr. Harr passed out a translation of the speech made in Urdu by President Mohammad Ayub Khan, introducing President Eisenhower to the citizens of Karachi on 8 December. He commented that this speech seemed to be a model of draftmanship and speculated as to who might have written it.

3. "Spy Satellite"

Mr. Gray then brought up the subject of the front-page story in the New York Times on 5 January which quoted U. S. military leaders as being alarmed over budget limitations on project Samos.

4. Sprague Committee

The Board once more discussed possible candidates for Staff Director of the Sprague Committee. Mr. Merchant spoke highly of Mr. Nielsen, and Mr. Hoopes was mentioned as still being in the

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running. A comment was made that George Wyeth would probably not be available.

5. Nuclear Testing

The discussion then turned to developments in the field of nuclear testing. Mr. Gray informed the Board that Mr. McCone had told him that the Soviets in their release from Geneva took considerable liberties with the facts surrounding progress on systems to detect underground tests, and that their statement was highly colored by politics. There was some discussion as to how this situation might be exploited by the West. Mr. Dulles noted that the President would refer to the negotiations on test suspension in his State of the Union message. Mr. Merchant added that one of the difficulties in making capital out of the Soviets' misrepresentations and distortions is that the basic data are so technical that they are difficult for the layman to follow. He and Mr. Allen undertook to see what plans were being developed, in this connection, in their respective organizations.

6. Studies of American Civilizations

Mr. Merchant called the group's attention to a study recently published by Messrs. Aragon and Maurois on the development of American civilizations during the past forty years. He said that a recent newspaper story had stated that Mr. Dulles was interested in the project. The DCI replied that he had never heard of it and that Mr. Aragon's politics were somewhat dubious.

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Mr. Allen reported that reaction to the motion picture "On the Beach" has been quite cool in all foreign cities with the exception of Rome, where reactions had been described as "ecstatic." Except for Rome, critics have universally condemned the production on both technical and artistic grounds. In Amsterdam the showing of the film was cancelled on order of the civil defense authorities.

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10. Aid to Syria

The Board then turned to a discussion of recommendations from Cairo and Damascus to the effect that it would be politically advantageous for the U.S. to move quickly on aid projects for Syria, in view of current relations between Syria and Egypt. Mr. Riddleberger indicated that a cannery project costing some \$400,000 had recently been approved and that another somewhat similar project was under active consideration.


14 JAN 1960
ALLEN W. DULLES
Director

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